



— AN INVITATION TO MAKE HISTORY

Your chance to restore *the Heart of the Daintree*

Right now, 600 hectares of one of the world's most extraordinary landscapes is returning to rainforest, permanently. You can be part of making that happen.

DAINTREE OXBOW RESTORATION PROGRAM · FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND · 2026

Photography: Martin Stringer

600 ha

1,500 AC · TO BE RESTORED
AND PROTECTED FOREVER

17

LOTS · ONE CONNECTED
LANDSCAPE

2

WORLD HERITAGE
AREAS

~\$7M

AUD TOTAL TO RAISE
FOR ACQUISITION

26 yrs

ON THE GROUND

— THE OPPORTUNITY

A landscape *ready to return*

In 2024, the Mossman Sugar Mill closed after 127 years: the last mill in Far North Queensland. With it went the only viable agricultural future for thousands of acres of flood-prone, low-fertility land along the Daintree River, including the 600-hectare (1,500-acre) McDowell Oxbow Wetland.

The families who farmed this Country for generations are ready to move on. We secure the landscape lot by lot, at prices honest to what the land actually is: marginal, flood-prone, worked hard for decades. In return, vendors get speed and certainty through fast, unconditional settlements. And Rainforest Rescue, with 26 years on the ground, a fully operational native plant nursery, and deep relationships with Traditional Owners, is ready to act.

The anchor is already in place. 110 Cape Tribulation Road (30.3 hectares) is owned outright at the centre of the landscape, and hosts our annual community tree planting. Additional lots are being acquired in stages as funding clears, with the first acquisitions moving now.

This is the window. These conditions are rare: willing sellers, affordable land, ecological urgency, and an organisation with the capacity to deliver. They won't exist indefinitely.

This is restoration as investment, not conservation expense. The Oxbow is being built as a global demonstration that returning marginal farmland to rainforest can be structured as an investment in natural capital: measurable, verifiable, and permanent. This is about helping something extraordinary return, not only saving what remains.

"We've spent 26 years earning the right to do something like this. And right now, the opportunity is in front of us."



RIVER SYSTEM, LOWER DAINTREE — PHOTO: MARTIN STRINGER

The only place on Earth where *two World Heritage Areas share a border*

The McDowell Oxbow Wetland sits between Daintree National Park (Julay Madja in the language of the Traditional Owners of the Region, the Eastern Kuku Yalanji) to the west and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park to the east, connected by the Daintree River flowing directly through the restoration footprint.

It's a nationally significant wetland, officially listed in the *Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia*. Home to the Southern Cassowary, Spectacled Flying Fox, marine turtles, freshwater sawfish, and more than 70 bird species. Its mangrove system is the most biodiverse on the continent, and arguably, the world.

And yet today, most of it sits under former pasture and cane, ecologically diminished by decades of clearing, chemical runoff, and altered hydrology. The ecological memory is still there. The mangroves still hold. The river still flows. What's missing is ownership by people who will protect it.

Your contribution doesn't fund a campaign. It doesn't support an organisation. It buys land, and it will restore habitat and protect it permanently. Land restored with locally sourced, seed-propagated Daintree Rainforest trees, protected by permanent conservation covenant. The title may transfer to Rainforest Rescue, but the legacy belongs to the people who made it possible.



What we are protecting. *What we are building toward.*

These two images are separated by 100 years and the decision we make right now. The first is the Oxbow as surveyed in November 2025. The second, a projection of the same landscape, a century into full restoration. The ecology, the waterways, the forest: all waiting to return.

Oxbow — survey, November 2025

MCDOWELL OXBOW — ORTHOMOSAIC SURVEY OF THE FULL 1,500-ACRE FOOTPRINT, NOVEMBER 2025

Oxbow — 100 years restored

AI-GENERATED ILLUSTRATIVE PROJECTION — ECOLOGICAL POTENTIAL OF THE SAME FOOTPRINT, FULLY RESTORED

Future landscape projections are AI-generated visualisations created for illustrative purposes only. They are intended to convey ecological potential, not to represent a specific scientific outcome or guaranteed timeline.



What happens *as* land is secured

Restoration here doesn't start from zero. The ecological foundations are intact. The moment land is secured and agricultural use stops, nature begins its return, and Rainforest Rescue accelerates it.

Some of this starts on day one: chemical inputs stop, natural regeneration begins, and planting starts from our nursery. The bigger prize comes with completion. As the full floodplain comes into our care, the natural hydrology can be restored and the wetland reconnects: fish nurseries recover in the mangrove fringe, freshwater turtles return to permanent aquatic habitat, and cassowaries, with fewer than 4,000 remaining in Australia, gain restored corridors.

And critically: the Daintree River runs cleaner. Decades of sugar farming introduced herbicides, fertilisers, pesticides and sediment into the system: runoff that still reaches the Great Barrier Reef. Restoring wetland vegetation intercepts that chemical and nutrient load before it enters the water. Every acre secured is an acre of living filtration, working permanently in the reef's favour.

"This isn't charity. It's one of the most effective conservation investments available in Australia today, with permanent, verifiable outcomes."

Branden Barber, CEO, Rainforest Rescue

Threatened species with habitat in the Oxbow restoration footprint:

SOUTHERN CASSOWARY

SPECTACLED FLYING FOX

EASTERN CURLEW

MARINE TURTLES

FRESHWATER SAWFISH

BENNETT'S TREE KANGAROO

70+ BIRD SPECIES



7 things your gift *directly causes*

Every dollar you contribute does one thing first: it buys land. Permanently. Then it starts doing 7 more things, simultaneously, and for as long as that land exists.



Carbon · verified

ACCU carbon project registered on anchor property. Further registration planned as parcels are secured. Measured with FULLCAM and credits through the Federal Clean Energy Regulator.



Biodiversity · enhanced

Pioneering Cassowary Credits with Terrain NRM. Nature Repair Market in play through Federal Government and Clean Energy Regulator.



A cleaner reef

Agricultural chemicals, nutrients and sediment currently entering the Daintree River will be intercepted by restored wetland vegetation. Aligned with Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan.



Wildlife corridors

Cassowaries, marine turtles, sawfish, Bennett's Tree Kangaroos, and 70+ bird species gain habitat. 2 EPBC Act listed communities recover across the floodplain.



Working on Country

Eastern Kuku Yalanji Country. We've helped build their restoration infrastructure, and trained five of their rangers.



Regional renewal

Long-term skilled employment in restoration, seed collection, and land management in a region navigating the loss of its 127-year sugar industry.



A model for Australia

In partnership with James Cook University and Terrain NRM, pioneering a replicable model for post-agricultural land transition at scale.

What your investment *achieves on the ground*

Each contribution buys specific, identifiable land · permanently secured under conservation covenant, protected by law. At comparable land values of approximately \$12,000/ha:

\$100k AUD	Conservation Founding Partner You permanently protect approximately 8 hectares / 20 acres · Named acknowledgement in all Oxbow communications and annual reporting
\$200k AUD	Landscape Partner You permanently protect approximately 16 hectares / 40 acres · Accounting for Nature third-party verification · Named partnership recognition · Annual briefing with CEO
\$500k AUD	Oxbow Restoration Leader You permanently protect approximately 41 hectares / 100 acres · Named conservation partnership · Private site visit in the Daintree (Julay Madja) · Co-branded conservation reporting
\$1M+ AUD	Founding Conservation Legacy Partner You secure one or more complete Oxbow properties: permanently protected, permanently your legacy · Strategic partnership in the broader Daintree Oxbow Restoration Program · Permanent recognition in the landscape itself · The next lots in the aggregation are identified: a single gift at this level can secure one outright

All donations fully tax-deductible for Australian taxpayers. Registered on the Australian Government's Register of Environmental Organisations (DGR). ACNC regulated. ABN 61 086 885 154.

Contact branden@rainforestrescue.org.au for US arrangements, or Chris Minty at chris@rainforestrescue.org.au for UK options.

What our partners say about the Oxbow

Others have already committed. Here's what they say about why.

"This is the exact type of project we like to support, a project working to make our planet better for today and tomorrow. We are proud to support the Rainforest Rescue team and the restoration of the Oxbow."

Kylie Doye

Chair, Big Blue Ocean Foundation

"This is the right project at the right time. The Oxbow project brings so many benefits beyond the environmental. This is something anyone could get behind and feel that their investment is well situated."

Major Gift Supporter

Anonymous

Advancing 7 UN Sustainable Development Goals

The Oxbow delivers measurable progress across 7 of the 17 UN SDGs, making it one of the most multi-benefit conservation investments in Australia today.



Goals 6, 8, 10, 13, 14, 15 and 17. Alignment assessed by Rainforest Rescue. Not affiliated with or endorsed by the United Nations.



26 years of doing *exactly this*

We are not a new organisation with a bold vision. We are an organisation that has been buying, protecting, and restoring rainforest land in the Daintree since 1999, and has spent 26 years building the precise capability the Oxbow requires.

Our native plant nursery at Cow Bay is capable of producing up to 150,000 seedlings per year from locally sourced seed across 45 rescued properties comprised of high ecological value Daintree habitat. Our ACCU carbon project is registered. Our Accounting for Nature account is active. When you partner with Rainforest Rescue on the Oxbow, you are not funding a plan. You are funding an organisation that has already proven it can deliver.

As of March 2026, Rainforest Rescue is formally a Queensland-registered organisation, headquartered in Mossman at the edge of the Daintree. We live here. We work here. The Oxbow is the next chapter of work we have been building toward for more than two decades.

45

Properties rescued and protected forever in the Daintree and beyond

420k+

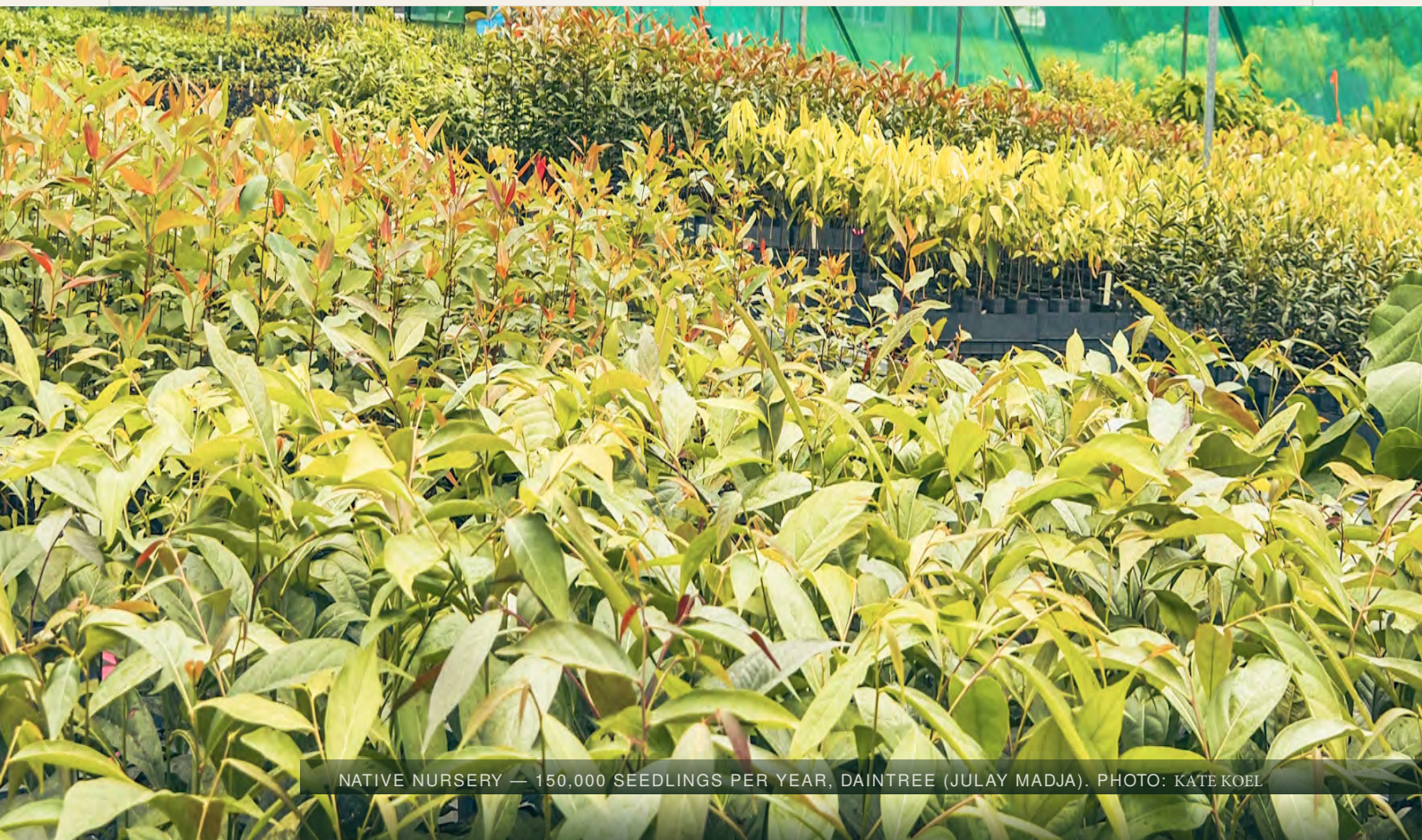
Native trees planted from locally and ethically sourced seed

150k

Seedlings per year · Cow Bay Native Nursery, fully operational

2M+

Square metres of rainforest protected by Nature Refuge status





Solar Whisper River Tours on Crocodile Creek · Daintree Mangroves. Photo: Martin Stringer



SCARFACE AND DUSTY — SALTWATER CROCODILES ON THE DAINTREE RIVER. PHOTO: MARTIN STRINGER

"The Daintree is possibly as old as 180 million years. Flowering plants began here; this is still a Jurassic biodiverse cornucopia that desperately needs our help. What we do here in the next five years will shape what it looks like for the next 5,000. You have the chance to be part of that. Together we can make a tremendous contribution, building our legacy."

BRANDEN BARBER
CEO, RAINFOREST RESCUE



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Rainforest Rescue is a not-for-profit organisation registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission. All Australian donations over \$2 are fully tax-deductible. Registered on the Australian Government's Register of Environmental Organisations. ABN 61 086 885 154.

PO Box 1199 · Mossman QLD 4873 · Australia

Land values based on comparable Daintree region transactions (~\$12,000/ha). Per-hectare figures are indicative. Accounting for Nature verification applies to secured properties. Biodiversity credit outcomes subject to market development and verification timelines.

Oxbow · 100 years restored



AI-generated illustrative projection · ecological potential of the Oxbow footprint, fully restored. Not a guaranteed scientific outcome.